

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 STR-04
TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 /088 W
-----095912 190842Z /10

R 190715Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6470

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUJUMBURA 0966

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, EGEN, UNCTAD, BY

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COMMODITIES - UNCTAD COMMON FUND
MEETING NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 2

REF: STATE 191312

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION KEYED TO PARA THREE OF REFTEL:

(A) THE DIRECTOR FOR ECON AFFAIRS AT THE MOFA WAS UNABLE TO SAY WHICH AGENCIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN HIS GOVERNMENT MOST AFFECTED BURUNDI'S DECISIONS ON HOW TO CAST ITS VOTE ON COMMON FUND ISSUES RAISED BY THE G-77. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE DID SAY THAT FINANCE MINISTER DOMINIQUE SHIRAMANGA FORMALLY PROPOSES ECONOMIC POLICY MEASURES WHICH ARE SUBMITTED TO THE SUPREME REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (THE 30-MAN ALL-POWERFUL LEGISLATIVE BODY MADE UP OF MILITARY OFFICERS) FOR ITS APPROVAL.

(B) SHIRAMANGA, CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR ELISEE NTAHONIKORA, AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PLANNING DONATIEN BIHUTE MAY BE PART OF THE GRB DELEGATION AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING. MATHIAS NDIKUMANA, DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY, WILL ALSO PROBABLY BE PART OF THE DELEGATION.
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IT IS UNLIKELY TO HAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO HOLD TO A FORMAL POSITION, BUT THE STAND OF BURUNDI'S DELEGATES WILL PROBABLY BE DETERMINED ON AN AD HOC BASIS AMIDST THE PRESSURES AND LOGROLLING GENERATED AMONG THE NON-ALIGNED (ESPECIALLY AFRICAN) COUNTRIES.

(C) COMMENT: COMMON FUND ISSUES ARE TOO ESOTERIC TO ENGAGE BURUNDIAN POLITICIANS IN MAKING DECISIONS. RATHER, THE DELEGATION WILL

START FROM THE VIEWPOINT THAT THE DEVELOPED WORLD OWES A LIVING TO THE UNDER-DEVELOPED (INCLUDING BURUNDI), AND THAT G-77 SOLIDARITY IS IMPORTANT AS A MEANS OF PRESSURE ON THE RICH NATIONS. AS A RESULT, IT IS NOT RPT NOT LIKELY THAT THE USG CAN INDUCE BURUNDI, THROUGH DISCUSSIONS WITH GRB REPS, TO INSTRUCT ITS DELEGATION TO ADHERE MORE CLOSELY TO A PREDETERMINED POSITION ON THE COMMON FUND WHICH IS CLOSER TO US VIEWS. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE EMBASSY DOES NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE THAT THE USG COULD GAIN SUPPORT FOR ITS POSITION BY SENDING AN EXPERT HERE TO DISCUSS USG IDEAS ON THE COMMON FUND. APART FROM A DESIRE TO ADHERE TO THIRD WORLD STANDS, THE VARIOUS GRB STAFFS WHICH MIGHT HAVE A SAY ON THIS ISSUE ARE SO OVERBURDENED WITH OTHER CURRENT BUSINESS THAT IT WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO ELICIT UNDERSTANDING FOR THE AMERICAN POSITION.

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